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REVENGE;

TRAGEDY.

As it is Afted at the

THEATRES-ROYAL;

By his MAJESTY'S Servants.

By E. YOUNG, LL.D.

Manet alta mente repostum. VIRG.

LONDON:

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PROLOGUE.

By a FRIEND.

OFT has the buskin'd Muse, with action mean, Debas'd the glory of the Tragic scene: While puny Villains, drest in purple pride, With crimes obscene the Heav'n-born rage bely'd.

To her belongs to meann the Heroe's fate, To trace the errors of the Wise and Great; To mark th' excess of passions too resin'd, And paint the tumults of a god-like mind; Where, mixt with rage, exalted thoughts combine, And darkest deeds with beauteous colours shine.

Such lights and shades in a well mingled draught, By curious touch of artful pencils wrought, With soft deceit amuse the doubtful eye, Pleas'd with the constitt of the various dye.

Thus through the following Scenes, with sweet surprise. Virtue and Guilt in dread confusion rise; And Love and Hate, at once, and Grief and Jor.

Pity and Rage, their mingled force employ.

Here the fost Virgin sees, with secret shame, Her charms excell'd by Friendship's purer slame, Forc'd, with reluctant Virtue, to approve The gen'rous Hero who rejects her love.

Behold him There, with gloomy passions stain'd, A Wife suspected, and an injur'd Friend; Yet such the toil where Innocence is caught, That rash Suspicion seems without a fault; We dread awhile, lest Beauty should succeed, And almost wish ev'n Virtue's self may bleed.

Mark well the black Revenge, the cruel guile, The Traitor-fiend trampling the lovely spoil Of Beauty, Truth, and Innocence opprest; Then let the rage of Furies fire your breast.

Yet may bis mighty Wrongs, his just Disdain, His bleeding Country, his low'd Father slain, His Martial Pride, your Admiration raise, And crown him with involuntary Praise.

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Dra-

Dramatis Personæ.

At DRURY-LANE.

MEN.

Don Alonzo, the Spanish General, Mr. Reddish.

Don Carlos, his Friend. - Mr. J. Aickin.

Don Alvarez, a Courtier, - Mr. Burton.

Don Manuel, Attendant of Don

Carlos, - Mr. Hurst.

Zanga, a Captive Moor, - Mr.

WOMEN.

LEONORA, ALVAREZ'S Daughter, Mrs. Baddeley. Isabella, the Moor's Mistres, Mrs. Reddift.

At COVENT-GARDEN.

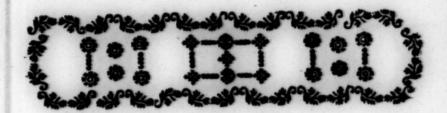
MEN.

Don Alonzo, the Spanish General, Mr. Wrighten.
Don Carlos, his Friend, Mr. Lewis.
Don Alvarez, a Courtier, Mr. Gardiner.
Don Manuel, Attendant of Don Mr. Davis.
Carlos, Mr. Savigny.

WOMEN.

LEONORA, ALVAREZ'S Daughter, Mrs. Mattocks. ISABELLA, the Moor's Miftres, Miss Pearce.

SCENE, SPAIN.



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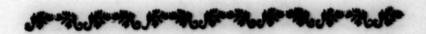
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REVENGE.



ACT I. SCENE I.

Enter Zanga.

W HETHER first nature, or long want of peace,

W Has wrought my mind to this, I cannot tell;

But horrors now are not displeasing to me!

I like this rocking of the battlements.

Rage on, ye winds, burst clouds, and waters roar!

You bear a just resemblance of my fortune,

And suit the gloomy habit of my soul.

A 4

Enter

Enter Ifabella.

Who's there? My love!

Isab. Why have you left my bed?

Your absence more affrights me than the storm.

Zan. The dead, alone, in fuch a night can reft,

And I indulge my meditation here.

Woman, away! I choose to be alone.

Ijab. I know you do, and therefore will not leave you; Excuse me, Zanga, therefore dare not leave you. Is this a night for walks of contemplation? Something unusual hangs upon your heart, And I will know it: by our loves I will. To you I facrifie'd my virgin same;

Ask I too much to share in your distress?

Zan. In tears? Thou fool! then hear me, and be plung'd

In hell's abyss, if ever it escape thee.

To firike thee with aftonishment at once,

I hate Alonzo. First recover that,

And then thou shalt hear farther.

Ifab. Hate Alonzo!

I cwn, I thought Alonzo most your friend, And that he lost the master in that name.

Zan. Hear, then. 'Tis twice three years fince that

great man

(Great let me call him, for he conquer'd me,)
Made me the captive of his arm in fight.
He flew my father, and threw chains o'er me,
While I, with pious rage, pursu'd revenge.
I then was young, he plac'd me near his person,
And thought me not dishonour'd by his service.
One day (may that returning day be night,
The stain, the curse of each succeeding year!)
For something, or for nothing, in his pride
He struck me. (While I tell it, do I live?)
He smote me on the cheek.——I did not stab him,
For that were poor revenge.——E'er since, his folly

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Has strove to bury it beneath a heap
Of kindnesses, and thinks it is forgot.
Insolent thought! and like a second blow!
Affronts are innocent, where men are worthless;
And such alone can wisely drop revenge.

Isab. But with more temper, Zanga, tell your story:

To fee your firong emotions ftartles me.

Zan. Yes, woman, with the temper that befits it. Has the dark adder venom? fo have I When trod upon. Proud Spaniard, thou shalt feel me! For from that day, that day of my dishonour, I from that day have curs'd the rifing fun, Which never fail'd to tell me of my fhame. I from that day have bleft the coming night, Which promis'd to conceal it; but in vain; The blow return'd for ever in my dream. Yet on I toil'd, and groan'd for an occasion Of ample vengeance; none is yet arriv'd. Howe'er at prefent I conceive warm hopes Of what may wound him fore in his ambition, Life of his life, and dearer than his foul. By nightly march he purpos'd to furprize The Moorifb camp; but I have taken care They shall be ready to receive his favour.

Would darken all the conquests he has won.

Isab. Just as I enter'd, an express arriv'd.

Failing in this, a cast of utmost moment

Zan. To whom?

Ijab. His friend, Don Carlos.

Zan. Be propitious,

O Mahomet, on this important hour,
And give at length my famish'd soul revenge!
What is revenge, but courage to call in
Our honour's debts, and wisdom to convert
Others' self-love into our own protection?
But see, the morning ray breaks in upon us;
I'll seek Don Carlos, and enquire my sate.

Excunt.

A;

Enter

you;

d be

that

THE REVENGE.

Enter Manuel and Don Carlos.

Man. My lord Don Carles, what brings your express? Car. Alenzo's glory, and the Moors defeat. The field is firew'd with twice ten thousand flain, Tho' he suspects his measures were betray'd. He'll foon arrive. O, how I long to embrace The first of heroes, and the best of friends !-I lov'd fair Leonora long before The chance of battle gave me to the Moors, From whom fo late Alonzo fet me free; And while I groan'd in bondage, I deputed This great Alonzo, whom her father honours, To be my gentle advocate in love, To ftir her heart, and fan its fires for me. Man. And what fuccess? Car. Alas, the cruel maid-Indeed her father, who tho' high at court, And powerful with the King, has wealth at heart, To heal his devastations from the Moors, Knowing I'm richly freighted from the East,

Careffes me, and urges her to wed.

Man. Her aged father

Leads her this way.

Car. She looks like radiant truth,
Brought forth by the hand of hoary time
You to the port with speed, 'tis possible
Some vessel is arriv'd. Heav'n grant it bring
Tidings which Carles may receive with joy!

My fleet now failing in the fight of Spain,

(Heav'n guard it fafe thro' fuch a dreadful ftorm!)

Enter Alvarez and Leonora.

Alv. Don Carlos, I am labouring in your favour With all a parent's foft authority,
And earnest counsel.

Car. Angels fecond you! For all my blifs or mifery hangs on it.

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Alv. Daughter, the happiness of life depends On our discretion, and a prudent choice; Look into those they call unfortunate, And closer view'd, you'll find they are unwise: Some flaw in their own conduct lies beneath, And 'tis the trick of fools to fave their credit. Which brought another language into use. Don Carlos is of ancient, noble blood, And then his wealth might mend a prince's fortune. For him the fun is labouring in the mines, A faithful flave, and turning earth to gold. His keels are freighted with that facred pow'r, By which ev'n kings and emperors are made. Sir, you have my good wishes, and I hope TTo Car. My daughter is not indifpos'd to hear you.

Car. O Leonora! why art thou in tears?

Because I am less wretched than I was?

Before your father gave me leave to woo you,

Hush'd was your bosom, and your eye serene.

Will you for ever help me to new pains,

And keep reserves of torment in your hand,

To let them loose on ev'ry dawn of joy?

Leon. Think you my father too indulgent to me,
That he claims no dominion o'er my tears?

A daughter fure may be right dutiful,
Whose tears alone are free from a restraint.

Car. Ah my torn heart!
Leen. Regard not me, my lord,
I shall obey my father.

Car. Difobey him,
Rather than come thus coldly, than come thus
With absent eyes and alienated mien,
Suff'ring address, the victim of my love.
O let me be undone the common way,
And have the common comfort to be pity'd,
And not be ruin'd in the mask of bliss,

And so be envy'd, and be wretched too! Love calls for love. Not all the pride of beauty,

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Those eyes, that tell us what the sun is made of, Those lips, whose touch is to be bought with life, Those hills of driven snow, which seen are felt; All these possess, are nought, but as they are The proof, the substance of an inward passion, And the rich plunder of a taken heart.

Leon. Alas! my lord, we are too delicate; And when we grafp the happiness we wish'd,

We call on wit to argue it away :

A plainer man would not feel half your pains: But fome have too much wisdom to be happy.

Car. Had I known this before, it had been well:
I had not then folicited your father
To add to my diffres; as you behave,
Your father's kindness stabs me to the heart.
Give me your hand — Nay, give it, Leonora;
You give it not — nay, yet you give it not —
I ravish it. —

Leon. I pray, my lord, no more.

Car. Ah, why so sad? You know each figh does shake me; Sighs there, are tempetts here.

I've heard, bad men would be unblest in heav'n:
What is my guilt, that makes me so with you?
Have I not languish'd prottrate at thy feet?
Have I not liv'd whole days upon thy sight?
Have I not seen thee where thou hast not been?

And, mad with the idea, clasp'd the wind, And doated upon nothing?

Leon. Court me not,
Good Carlos, by recounting of my faults,
And telling how ungrateful I have been.
Alas! my lord, if talking would prevail,
I could fuggest much better arguments
Than those regards you threw away on me;
Your valour, honour, wisdom, prais'd by all.
But bid physicians talk our veins to temper,
And with an argument new-set a pulse;
Then think, my lord, of reasoning into love.

Car. Must I despair then? Do not shake me thus:

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My tempest-beaten heart is cold to death.

Ah! turn, and let me warm me in thy beauties.

Heav'ns! what a proof I gave but two nights past

Of matchless love! To sling me at thy feet,

I slighted friendship, and I slew from same;

Nor heard the summons of the next day's battle:

But darting headlong to thy arms, I lest

The promis'd fight, I lest Alongo too

To stand the war, and quell a world alone. [True

To thand the war, and quell a world alone. [Trumpets. Leon. The victor comes. My lord, I must withdraw.

Car. And must you go?

Leon. Why should you wish me stay?
Your friend's arrival will bring comfort to you,
My presence none; it pains you and myself;
For both our sakes permit me to withdraw. [Ex Leon.
Car. Sure, there's no peril but in love. Oh how
My soes would boast to see me look so pale!

Enter Alonzo.

Car. Alonzo!

Alon. Carlos!——I am whole again; Claspt in thy arms, it makes my heart entire.

Car. Whom dare I thus embrace? the conqueror

Of Africk?

me;

Alon. Yes, much more, Don Carlos' friend. The conquest of the world would cost me dear, Should it beget one thought of distance in thee. I rise in virtues to come nearer thee. I conquer with Don Carlos in my eye,

And thus I claim my victory's reward. [Embracing bim.

Car. A victory indeed! your godlike arm Has made one fpot the grave of Africa, Such numbers fell! and the survivors fled As frighted passengers from off the strand,

When the tempestuous sea comes roaring on them.

Alon. 'Twas Carlos conquer'd, 'twas his cruel chains.

Inflam'd me to a rage unknown before, And threw my former actions far behind.

Car:

THE REVENGE.

Car. I love fair Leonora. How I love her!
Yet fill I find (I know not how it is)
Another heart, another foul for thee.
Thy friendship warms, it raises, it transports
Like musick, pure the joy, without alloy,
Whose very rapture is tranquillity:
But love, like wine, gives a tumultuous bliss,
Heighten'd indeed beyond all mortal pleasures,
But mingles pangs and madness in the bowl.

Enter Zanga.

Zan. Manuel, my lord, returning from the port, On bufiness both of moment and of haste, Humbly begs leave to speak in private with you. Car. In private?-Ha!-Alonzo, I'll return, No bufiness can detain me long from thee. Zan. My lord Alonzo, I obey'd your orders. Alon. Will the fair Leonora pals this way? Zan. She will, my lord, and foon. Alon. Come near me, Zanga; For I dare open all my heart to thee. Never was fuch a day of triumph known. There's not a wounded captive in my train, That flowly follow'd my proud chariot wheels, With half a life, and beggary, and chains, But is a god to me: I am most wretched. In his captivity, thou know'ft Don Carlos, My friend (and never was a friend more dear) Deputed me his advocate in love, To talk to Leonora's heart, and make A tender party in her thoughts for him. What did I do? I lov'd myfelf. Indeed, One thing there is might leffen my offence, (If fuch offence admits of being leffen'd) I thought him dead; for (by what fate I know not)

Zan. Thanks to Zanga,
Whothence contriv'd that evil which has happen'd. [Afide.
Alon.

His letters never reach'd me.

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Ti Win I for Far Ha Mon. Yes, eurs'd of heav'n! I lov'd myfelf, and now In a late action, rescu'd from the Moors, I have brought home my rival in my friend.

Zan. We hear, my Lord, that in that action too,

Your interpofing arm preferv'd his life.

Alon. I did — with more than the expence of mine;
For, oh! this day is mention'd for their nuptials.
But see, she comes — I'll take my leave, and die.

Zan. Hadft thou a thousand lives, thy death would

please me.

Unhappy fate! My country overcome!

My fix years hope of vengeance quite expir'd!

Would nature were — I will not fall alone:

But others' groans shall tell the world my death. [Afide.

Enter Leonora.

Alon. When nature ends with anguish like to this, Sinners shall take their last leave of the sun, And bid his light adieu.

Leon. The mighty conqueror

Difmay'd! I thought you gave the foe your forrows.

Alon. O cruel infult! are those tears your sport,

Which nothing but a love for you could draw?

Africk I quell'd, in hope by that to purchase

Your leave to sigh unscorn'd; but I complain not:

'Twas but a world, and you are — Leonora.

Leon. That paffion which you boast of is your guilt, A treason to your friend. You think mean of me,

To plead your crimes as motives of my love.

Alon. You, Madam, ought to thank those crimes you blame :

Tis they permit you to be thus inhuman,
Without the censure both of earth and heav'n—
I fondly thought a last look might be kind.
Farewell for ever.—— This severe behaviour
Has, to my comfort, made it sweet to die.

Leon. Farewell for ever ! - Sweet to die !- O heav'n !

[Afide.

Alon.

. Car.

Alones, stay, you must not thus escape me; But hear your guilt at large.

Alon. O Leonora!

What could I do? In duty to my friend,
I faw you; and to fee, is to admire.
For Carles did I plead, and most fincerely.
Witness the thousand agonies it cost me.
You know I did. I fought but your esteem;
If that is guilt, an angel had been guilty.
I often figh'd, nay, wept; but could not help it:
And fure it is no crime to be in pain.
But grant my crime was great; I'm greatly curs'd:
What would you more? Am I not most undone?
This usage is like stamping on the murder'd

Leon. If from your guilt none fuffer'd but yourfelf,
It might be fo. — Farewell. [Going.

Alon. Who fuffers with me?

Leon. Enjoy your ignorance, and let me go.

Alon. Alas! what is there I can fear to know,
Since I already know your hate? Your actions
Have long fince told me that.

When life is fled; most barbarous, and unjust.

Leon. They flatter'd you.

Leon. O fearch in fate no farther!

I hate thee! O Alonzo, how I hate thee!

Alon. Indeed! and do you weep for hatred too?

O what a doubtful torment heaves my heart!

I hope it most — and yet I dread it more.

Should it be so; should her tears slow from thence;

How would my soul blaze up in ecstasy!

Ah, no! how fink into the depth of horrors! Leon. Why would you force my flay?

Alon. What mean these tears?

Leon. I weep by chance, nor have my tears a mean-

But, oh! when first I faw Alonzo's tears,

Iknew

I knew their meaning well.

[Alonzo falls passionately on his knees, and takes ber hand.

Alon. Heavens! what is this? That excellence for which

Defire was planted in the heart of man; Virtue's supreme reward on this side heav'n; The cordial of my soul!—and this destroys me— Indeed, I slatter'd me that thou didst hate.

Leon. Alonzo, pardon me the injury
Of loving you. I ftruggled with my paffion,
And ftruggled long; let that be some excuse.

Alon. Unkind! you know I think your love a

Beyond all human bleffings; 'tis the price
Of fighs and groans, and a whole year of dying:
But, oh! the curse of curses! — O my friend! —

Leon. Alas!

Alon. What fays my Love?—Speak, Leonora.

Leon. Was it for you, my Lord, to be so quick
In finding out objections to our love?

Think you so strong my love, or weak my virtue,
It was unsafe to leave that part to me?

Alon. Is not the day then fix'd for your espousals?

Leon. Indeed, my father once had thought that way;

But marking how the marriage pain'd my heart,

Long he stood doubtful, but at last resolv'd

Your counsel, which determines him in all,

Should finish the debate.

Alon. O agony!

Must I not only lose her, but be made

Myself the instrument? not only die,

But plunge the dagger in my heart mysels?

This is refining on calamity.

Leon. What! do you tremble lest you should be mine?

For what else can you tremble? not for that My father places in your power to alter.

Alon. What's in my pow'r? —— O yes, to flab my friend!

Leon. To stab your friend were barbarous, indeed?
Spare him—and murder me.—I own, Alonzo,
You well may wonder at such words as these,
I start at them myself, they fright my nature,
Great is my fault, but blame not me alone,
Give him a little blame, who took such pains
To make me guilty.

Aley. Torment! [After a paufe, Leon. Speaks,

Leon. O my shame!

I sue, and sue in vain; it is most just.

When women sue, they sue to be deny'd.

You hate me, you despise me! you do well;

For what I've done I hate and scorn myself.

O night, fall on me! I shall blush to death.

Alon. First, perish all !

Leon. Say, what have you refolv'd?

My father comes, what answer will you give him?

Alon. What answer! let me look upon that face,
And read it there—Devote thee to another!

Not to be borne! a second look unders me.

Less. And why undo you? Is it, then, my Lord, So terrible to yield to your own wishes, Because they happen to concur with mine? Cruel! to take such pains to win an heart, Which you was conscious you must break with parting.

Alon. No, Leonora, I am thine for ever,

[Runs and embraces ber. In fpight of Carlos—Ha! who's that it my friend?

[Starts wide from ber.

Alas! I see him pale, I hear his groans; He foams, he tears his hair, he raves, he bleeds, (I know him by myself) he dies distracted.

Leon. How dreadful to be cut from what we love !

Alon. Ah! fpeak no more.

Lean. And ty'd to what we hate!

Alon. Oh!

Leon. Is it poffible?

Alon. Death! Leon. Can you?

Alon.

Alon. Oh ——
Yes, take a limb; but let my virtue 'scape.
Alas! my foul, this moment I die for thee.

Breaks away.

Leon. And are you perjur'd then for virtue's fake?
How often have you fworn! but go for ever - [Summer.

Alon. Heart of my heart, and effence of my joy!
Where art thou? — Oh, I'm thine, and thine for ever!
The groans of friendship shall be heard no more.
For whatsoever crime I can commit,
I've felt the pains already.

Leon. Hold, Alonzo,
And hear a maid, whom doubly thou hast conquer'd.
I love thy virtue as I love thy person,
And I adore thee for the pains it gave me;
But as I felt the pains, I'll reap the fruit;
I'll shine out in my turn, and shew the world

Be it enough that I have once been guilty; In fight of such a pattern to perfift, Ill suits a person honour'd with your love. My other titles to that bliss are weak,

Thy great example was not loft upon me.

I must deserve it by refusing it.
Thus then I tear me from thy hopes for ever.
Shall I contribute to Alonzo's crimes?

No, tho' the life-blood gushes from my heart. You shall not be asham'd of Leonora,

r.

n.

Or that late time may put our names together.

Nay, never fhrink; take back the bright example

You lately lent; O take it while you may,

While I can give it you, and be immortal. [Exit.

Alon. She's gone, and I shall see that face no more;
But pine in absence, and till death adore.
When with cold dew my fainting brow is hung,
And my eyes darken, from my fault'ring tongue,
Her name will tremble in a feeble moan,
And love with fate divide my dying groan.

ACT



ACT II. SCENE I.

Enter Manuel and Zanga.

ZANGA.

F this be true, I cannot blame your pain For wretched Carlos; 'tis but humane in you. But when arriv'd your dismal news? Man. This hour.

Zan. What, not a veffel fav'd?

Man. All, all the florm

Devour'd; and now o'er his late envy'd fortune The dolphins bound, and wat'ry mountains roar, Triumphant in his ruin.

Zan. Is Alvarez

Determin'd to deny his daughter to him?
That treasure was on shore, must that too join
The common wreck?

Man. Alwarez pleads indeed
That Leonora's heart is dif-inclin'd,
And pleads that only; so it was this morning,
When he concurr'd: the tempest broke the match;
And sunk his favour, when it sunk the gold.
The love of gold is double in his heart,
The vice of age, and of Alwarez too.

Zan. How does Don Carlos bear it?

Whose heart feels most a human heart can feel, And reasons best a human heart can reason. Zan. But is he then in absolute despair?

Man.

Man. Never to fee his Leonora more.

And, quite to quench all future hope, Abvarez
Urges Alonzo to espouse his daughter
This very day; for he has learnt their loves.

Zan. Ha! was not that receiv'd with ecstafy

By Don Alonzo?

lan .

Man. Yes, at first; but soon
A damp came o'er him, it would kill his friend.

Zan. Not if his friend consented; and since now

He can't himself espouse her-

Man. Yet to ask it
Has fomething shocking to a generous mind,
At least Alonzo's spirit startles at it.
Wide is the distance between our despair,
And giving up a mistress to another.
But I must leave you, Carlos wants support
In his severe affliction.

[Exit Manuel.

Zan. Ha! it dawns!——
It rifes to me, like a new found world
To mariners long time diffres'd at sea,
Sore from a storm, and all their viands spent!———
Or like the sun just rising out of chaos,
Some dregs of ancient night not quite purg'd off!
But shall I sinish it?—Hoa! Isabella!

Enter Ifabella.

I thought of dying; better things come forward; Vengeance is still alive; from her dark covert, With all her fnakes erect upon her crest, She stalks in view, and fires me with her charms. When, Ifabella, arriv'd Don Garlos here?

Isb. Two nights ago.

Zame That was the very night

Before the battle — Memory, set down that;

It has the essence of the crocodile,

Tho' yet but in the shell — I'll give it birth—

What time did he return?

Ifab.

Ifab. At midnight.

Say, did he fee that night his Leonora?

Ifab. No, my good lord.

Zan. No matter—tell me, woman, Is not Alonzo rather brave than cautious, Honest than subtle, above fraud himself, Slow therefore to suspect it in another?

Ifab. You best can judge; but so the world thinks of him. [Exit Isab.

Zan. Why, that was well—go fetch my tablets hither. Two nights ago my father's facred shade
'Thrice stalk'd around my bed, and smil'd upon me;
He smil'd a joy then little understood—
It must be so—and if so, it is vengeance
Worth waking of the dead for.

Re-enter Isabella with the tablets, Zanga writes, then reads as to bimfelf.

Thus it stands -The father's fix'd - Don Carlos cannot wed -Alonzo may - but that will hurt his friend -Nor can he ask his leave - or if he did, He might not gain it - It is hard to give Our own consent to ills, tho' we must bear them. Were it not then a master-piece worth all The wisdom I can boast, first to persuade Alenzo to request it of his friend, His friend to grant - then from that very grant, The strongest proof of friendship man can give, (And other motives) to work out a cause Of jealoufy, to rack Alonzo's peace? -I have turn'd o'er the catalogue of woes, Which fling the heart of man, and find none equal. It is the Hydra of calamities, The feven-fold death : the jealous are the damn'd. O jealoufy, each other passion's calm, To thee, thou conflagration of the foul!

Theu

Thou king of torments! thou grand counterpoise For all the transports beauty can inspire!

Ifab. Alonzo comes this way.

Zan. Most opportunely.

Withdraw—Ye subtle Damons, which reside [Ex. Isab. In courts, and do your work with bows and smiles,
That little engin'ry, more mischievous
Than sleets and armies, and the cannon's murder,
Teach me to look a lye; give me your maze
Of gloomy thought and intricate design,
To catch the man I hate, and then devour.

Enter Alonzo.

My lord, I give you joy.

Alon. Of what, good Zanga?

Zan. Is not the lovely Leonora yours?

Alon. What will become of Carlos?

Zan. He's your friend;

And fince he can't espouse the fair himself, Will take some comfort from Alonzo's fortune.

Alon. Alas! thou little know'st the force of love; Love reigns a sultan with unrivall'd sway, Puts all relations, friendship's self to death, If once he's jealous of it. I love Carlos, Yet well I know what pangs I selt this morning At his intended nuptials. For myself

I then felt pains which now for him I feel.

Zan. You will not wed her then?

Alon. Not instantly:

Infult his broken heart the very moment!

Zan. I understand you: but you'll wed hereaster, When your friend's gone, and his first pain assuag'd?

Alon. Am I to blame for that?

Zan. My lord, I love

Your very errors, they are born from virtue. Your friendship (and what nobler passion claims The heart?) does lead you blind-fold to your ruin.

Confider,

24 Confider, wherefore did Alvarez break Don Carles' match, and wherefore urge Alonze's? "Twas the same cause, the love of wealth: to-morrow May fee Alonzo in Don Carlos' fortune; A higher bidder is a better friend, And there are princes figh for Leonora. When your friend's gone, you'll wed; why then the

Which gives you Leonora now will cease; Carlos has loft her; should you lose her too, Why then you heap new torments on your friend, By that respect which labour'd to relieve him -'Tis well, he is difturb'd, it makes him pause. Alon. Think'ft theu, my Zanga, should I ask Don Carles,

His goodness would consent that I should wed her? Zan. I know it would.

Alon. But then the cruelty

To ask it, and for me to ask it of him! Zan. Methinks, you are not severe upon your friend.

Who was it gave him liberty and life? Alon. That is the very reason which forbids it.

Were I a stranger, I could freely speak: In me, it so resembles a domand,

Exacting of a debt, it shocks my nature. Zan. My lord, you know the fad alternative.

Is Leonora worth one pang, or not? It hurts not me, my lord, but as I love you: Warmly as you I with Don Carlos well; But I am likewise Don Alonso's friend : There all the difference lies between us two. In me, my lord, you hear another felf; And give me leave to add, a better too, Clear'd from those errors, which, tho' caus'd by virtue, Are fuch as may hereafter give you pain .-

Don Lopez of Caftile would not demur thus. Alon. Perish the name! what! facrifice the fair

To age and illness, because set in gold?

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T T I'll to Don Carlos, if my heart will let me.

I have not feen him fince his fore affliction;

But shun'd it, as too terrible to bear.

How shall I bear it now? I'm struck already. [Ex. Alon.

Zan. Half of my work is done. I must secure

Don Carlos, ere Alonzo fpeaks with him.

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Proud, hated Spain! oft drench'd in Moorish blood;
Dost thou not feel a deadly foe within thee?
Shake not the tow'rs where-e'er I pass along,
Conscious of ruin, and their great destroyer?
Shake to the center, if Alonzo's dear.
Look down, O holy Prophet! see me torture
This Christian Dog, this Insidel, which dares
To smite thy votaries, and spurn thy law,
And yet hopes pleasure from two radiant eyes,
Which look as if they were lighted up for thee!
Shall he enjoy thy paradise below?
Blast the bold thought, and curse him with her
charms!

But fee, the melancholy Lover comes!

Enter Don Carlos.

Car. Hope, thou hast told me lies from day to day,
For more than twenty years. Vile promiser!
None here are happy but the very fool,
Or very wise; and I wasn't fool enough
To smile in vanities, and hug a shadow;
Nor have I wisdom to elaborate
An artificial happiness from pains:
Ev'n joys are pains, because they cannot last. [Sighs.
Yet much is talk'd of bliss; it is the art
Of such as have the world in their possession,
To give it a good name, that fools may envy;
For envy to small minds is stattery.
How many lift the head, look gay, and smile
Against their consciences? And this we know,

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Yet knowing, disbelieve; and try again
What we have try'd, and struggle with conviction.
Each new experience gives the former credit;
And reverend grey threescore is but a voucher
That thirty told us true.

Zan. My noble Lord,

I mourn your fate; but are no hopes surviving?

Car. No hopes. Alwarez has a heart of steel:

Tis fixt, 'tis past, 'tis absolute despair.

Zan. You wanted not to have your heart made tender

By your own pains to feel a friend's diftress.

Car. I understand you well. Alonzo loves ;. I pity him.

Zan. I dare be sworn you do. Yet he has other thoughts.

Car. What canft thou mean?

2an. Indeed he has; and fears to ask a favour A stranger from a stranger might request; What costs you nothing, yet is all to him; Nay, what indeed will to your glory add, For nothing more than wishing your friend well.

Car. I pray be plain; his happiness is mine.

Zan. He loves to death, but so reveres his friend,

He can't persuade his heart to wed the maid

Without your leave, and that he fears to ask.

In persect tenderness I urg'd him to it.

Knowing the deadly sickness of his heart,

Your overslowing goodness to your friend,

Your wisdom, and despair yourself to wed her,

I wrung a promise from him he would try:

And now I come, a mutual friend to both,

Without his privacy, to let you know it,

And to prepare you kindly to receive him.

Car. Ha! if he weds I am undone, indeed; Not Don Alvarez' felf can then relieve me.

Zan. Alas, my Lord! you know his beart is feel, 'Tis fixt, 'tis paft, 'tis absolute despair.

Car. O cruel Heav'n! and is it not enough That I must never, never see her more!

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Say, is it not enough that I must die, But I must be tormented in the grave? -Alk my confent? - Must I then give her to him? Lead to his nuprial sheets the blushing maid? Oh! - Leonora! never, never, never!

Zan. A ftorm of plagues upon him! he refuses. [Afide.

Car. What! wed her? - and to-day?

Zan. To-day, or never.

To-morrow may fome wealthier Lover bring, And then Alonzo is thrown out, like you; Then whom shall he condemn for his misfortune? Carlos is an Alvarez to his love.

Car. O torment! Whither shall I turn?

Zan. To peace.

Car. Which is the way? Zan. His bappiness is yours,

I dare not disbelieve you.

Car. Kill my friend! Or worfe -- alas! and can there be a worfe?

A worse there is; nor can my nature bear it. Zan. You have convinc'd me, 'tis a dreatful talk.

I find, Alonzo's quitting her this morning For Carlos' fake, in tendernefs to you, Betray'd me to believe it less severe

Than I perceive it is.

Car. Thou doft upbraid me.

Zan. No, my good Lord; but fince you can't comply, 'Tis my misfortune that I mention'd it;

For had I not, Alonzo would indeed

Have dy'd, as now, but not by your decree.

Car. By my decree! do I decree his death? I do --- Shall I then fend her to his arms? Oh! which fide shall I take? be stabb'd? or-stabb'd?

'Tis equal death! a choice of agonies!-

Ah, no! all other agonies are eafe

To one - O Leonora! - never, never!

Go. Zanga, go, defer the dreadful trial,

Tho' but a day, fomething perchance may happen

To foften all to friendship and to love.

Go,

Say,

Go, stop my friend; let me not see him now, But save us from an interview of death.

Zan. My Lord, I'm bound in duty to obey you -If I not bring him, may Alonzo profper. [Afide. Ex. Zan. Car. What is this world ?- Thy school, O misery! Our only lesson is, to learn to suffer, And he who knows not that, was born for nothing. Tho' deep my pangs, and heavy at my heart, My comfort is, each moment takes away A grain at least, from the dead load that's on me, And gives a nearer prospect of the grave. But put it most severely - should I live-Live long - Alas! there is no length in time; Nor in thy time, O man! What's fourfcore years? Nay, what indeed the age of time itself, Since cut from out eternity's wide round? Away, then. To a mind refolv'd, and wife, There is an impotence in misery, Which makes me smile, when all its shafts are in me. Yet, Leonora - fhe can make time long, Its nature alter, as she alter'd mine. While in the luftre of her charms I lay, Whole fummer funs roll'd unperceiv'd away; I years for days, and days for moments told, And was furpriz'd to hear that I grew old; Now fate does rigidly its dues regain, And every moment is an age of pain.

As be is going out, Enter Zanga and Alonzo. Zanga flops Carlos.

Zan. Is this Don Carlos? this the boasted friend? How can you turn your back upon his sadness? Look on him, and then leave him, if you can. Whose forcows thus depress him? Not his own; This moment he could wed, without your leave.

Car. I cannot yield; nor can I bear his griefs.

Alonzo! [Going to bim, and taking bis hand.

Alon. O Carlos!

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Car. Pray forbear.

Alon. Art thou undone, and shall Alonzo smile?
Alonzo! who perhaps, in some degree,
Contributed to cause thy dreadful fate?
I was deputed guardian of thy love;
But, oh! I lov'd mysels. Pour down afflictions
On this devoted head; make me your mark;
And be the world, by my example, taught,

How facred it should hold the name of Friend.

Car. You charge yourself unjustly; well I know

The only cause of my severe affliction.

Alvarez, curs'd Alvarez! — so much anguish

Felt for so small a failure, is one merit

Which faultless virtue wants. The crime was mine,

Who plac'd thee there, where only thou could'st fail;

Tho' well I knew that dreadful post of honour

I gave thee to maintain. Ah! who could bear

Those eyes, unhurt? The wounds myself have felt,

(Which wounds alone should cause me to condemn thee)

They plead in thy excuse; for I too strove

To shun those fires, and found 'twas not in man.

Alon. You cast in shades the failures of a friend,
And soften all; but think not you deceive me:

I know my guilt, and I implore your pardon,
As the sole glimpse I can obtain of peace.

Car. Pardon for him, who, but this morning, threw Fair Leonora from his heart, all bath'd In ceaseless tears, and blushing with her love! Who, like a rose-leaf, wet with morning dew, Would have stuck close, and clung for ever there! But 'twas in thee, through fondness to thy friend, To shut thy bosom against ecstasies; For which, whilst this pulse beats, it beats to thee; Whilst this blood slows, it slows for my Alonzo, And every wish is levell'd at thy joy.

Zan. to Alon.] My Lord, my Lord, this is your time to fpeak.

Alon. to Zan.] Because he's kind? It therefore is the worst;

For 'tis his kindness which I fear to hurt. Shall the same moment see him sink in woes, And me providing for a flood of joys, Rich in the plunder of his happiness? No. I may die; but I can never speak.

Car. Now, now it comes! they are concerting it,
The first word strikes me dead — O Leonora!
And shall another taste her fragrant breath?
Who knows what after-time may bring to pass?
Fathers may change, and I may wed her still. [Afide

Alon. to Zan] Do I not fee him quite possess'd with anguish,

Which, like a Dæmon, writhes him to and fro; And shall I pour in new? No fond defire, No love; one pang at parting, and farewell. I have no other love but Carlos now.

Car. Alas, my friend! why with such eager grasp Dost press my hand, and weep upon my cheek? Alon. If after death our forms (as some believe) Shall be transparent, naked every thought,

And friends meet friends, and read each others hearts, 'Thou'lt know, one day, that thou wast held most dear. Farewell.

Car. Alonzo, stay—he cannot speak— [Holds bim. Lest it should grieve me — Shall I be out-done, And lose in glory, as I lose in love? [Aside. I take it much unkindly, my Alonzo, You think so meanly of me, not to speak, When well I know your heart is near to bursting. Have you forgot how you have bound me to you? Your smallest friendship's liberty and life.

Alon. There, there it is, my friend, it cuts me there.

How dreadful is it to a gen'rous mind, To ask, when sure he cannot be deny'd!

Car. How greatly thought! In all he tow'rs above me. [Afide.

Then you confess you would ask something of me?

Alon.

Alon. No, on my foul.

Zan. to Alon.] Then lofe her.

Car. Glorious spirit!

Why, what a pang has he run through for this?

By heav'n, I envy him his agonies.

Why was not mine the most illustrious lot,

Of starting at one action from below,

And staming up into consummate greatness?

Ha!—angels strengthen me!—It shall be so—
I can't want strength. Great actions, once conceiv'd,

Strengthen like wine, and animate the soul,

And call themselves to being. [Aside.] My Alonzo!

Since thy great soul disdains to make request,

Receive with favour that I make to thee.

Alon. What means my Carlos?

Car. Pray observe me well. Fate and Abvarez tore her from my heart, And plucking up my love, they had well nigh Pluck'd up life too, for they were twin'd together. Of that no more-What now does Reason bid? I cannot wed — Farewell my happiness! But, O my foul, with care provide for her's! In life, how weak, how helpless is a woman! Soon hurt; in happiness itself unsafe, And often wounded while the plucks the role; So properly the object of affliction, That heav'n is pleas'd to make diffress become her, And dreffes her most amiably in tears. Take then my heart in dowry with the fair, Be thou her guardian, and thou must be mine, Shut out the thousand preffing ills of life, With thy furrounding arms - Do this, and then Set down the liberty and life thou gav'ft me, As little things, as essays of thy goodness, And rudiments of friendship so divine.

Alon. There is a grandeur in thy goodness to me, Which, with thy foes, would render thee ador'd. But have a care, nor think I can be pleas'd With any thing that lays in pains for thee.

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Thou dost dissemble, and thy heart's in tears.

Car. My heart's in health, my spirits dance their round.

And at my eye pleasure looks out in smiles.

Alon. And canft thou, canft thou part with Leonora? Car. I do not part with her, I give her thee.

Alon. O Carlos!

Car. Don't disturb me, I'm fincere. Nor is it more than fimple justice in me. This morn didft thou refign her for my fake; I but perform a virtue learnt from thee; Discharge a debt, and pay her to thy wishes.

Alon. Ah! how? - but think not words were ever

For fuch occasions. Silence, tears, embraces, Are languid eloquence; I'll feek relief In absence from the pain of so much goodness, There thank the bleft above, thy fole superiors,

Adore, and raise my thoughts of them by thee. Zan. Thus far success has crown'd my boldest hope.

My next care is to haften these new nuptials, Afide. And then my master-works begin to play. Why this was greatly done, without one figh [To Car.

To carry fuch a glory to its period.

Car. Too foon thou praisest me. He's gone, and now I must unsluice my over-burthen'd heart, And let it flow. I would not grieve my friend With tears; nor interrupt my great defign, Great, fure, as ever human breaft durft think of.

But now my forrows, long with pain supprest, Burft their confinement with impetuous fway, O'er-swell all bounds, and bear e'en life away. So, till the day was won, the Greek renown'd With anguish wore the arrow in his wound, Then drew the shaft from out his tortur'd fide,

Let gush the torrent of his blood, and dy'd.

[Excunt.



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ACT III. SCENE I.

Enter Zanga and Ifabella.

ZANGA.

Joy, thou welcome stranger! twice three years
I have not felt thy vital beam; but now
It warms my veins, and plays around my heart:
A siery instinct lists me from the ground,
And could I mount—the spirits numberless
Of my dear countrymen, which yesterday
Lest their poor bleeding bodies on the field,
Are all assembled here, and o'er-inform me.
O bridegroom! great indeed thy present bliss;
Yet ev'n by me unenvy'd; for be sure
It is thy last, thy last smile, that which now
Sits on thy cheek; enjoy it while thou may'st;
Anguish, and groans, and death bespeak to-morrow.
My Isabella!

Zan. My fair ally! my lovely minister!

Twas well Alvarez, by my arts impell'd,
(To plunge Don Carlos in the last despair,
And so prevent all suture molestation)

Finish'd the nuptials soon as he resolv'd them;
This conduct ripen'd all for me, and ruin.
Scarce had the priest the holy rite perform'd,
When I, by sacred inspiration, forg'd
That letter, which I trusted to thy hand:

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That letter, which in glowing terms conveys, From happy Carlos to fair Leonora,
The most profound acknowledgment of heart For wondrous transports which he never knew.
This is a good subservient artifice,
To aid the nobler workings of my brain.

Isab. I quickly dropt it in the bride's apartment,

As you commanded.

Zan. With a lucky hand;
For foon Alonzo found it; I observ'd him
From out my secret stand. He took it up;
But scarce was it unfolded to his sight,
When he, as if an arrow pierc'd his eye,
Started, and trembling dropt it on the ground.
Pale and aghast a while my victim stood,
Disguis'd a sigh or two, and puff'd them from him;
Then rubb'd his brow, and took it up again.
At first he look'd as if he meant to read it;
But check'd by rising fears, he crush'd it thus,
And thrust it, like an adder, in his bosom.

Isab. But if he read it not, it cannot sting him,

At least not mortally.

Zan. At first I thought so;
But farther thought informs me otherwise,
And turns this disappointment to account.
He more shall credit it because unseen,
(If 'tis unseen) as thou anon may'st find.

Ifab. That would indeed commend my Zanga's skill.

Zan. This, Ifabella, is Don Carlos' picture; Take it, and so dispose of it, that sound, It may rise up a witness of her love, Under her pillow, in her cabinet, Or elsewhere as shall best promote our end.

Ifab. I'll weigh it as its consequence requires,

Then do my utmost to deserve your smile.

[Exit. Ifabella.

Zan. Is that Alonzo profrate on the ground!— Now he starts up like slame from sleeping embers, And wild distraction glares from either eye. If

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If thus a flight furmise can work his soul, How will the fulness of the tempest tear him!

Enter Alonzo.

Alon. And yet it cannot be ___ I am deceiv'd ____ I injure her: she wears the face of heav'n.

Zan. He doubts.

[Afide.

Alon. I dare not look on this again.

If the first glance, which gave suspicion only,
Had such effect, so smote my heart and brain,

The certainty would dash me all in pieces.

It cannot — Ha! it must, it must be true. [Starts.

Zan. Hold there, and we succeed. He has descry'd

And (for he knows I love him) will unfold His aching heart, and rest it on my counsel. I'll seem to go, to make my stay more sure.

[Afide.

Alon. Hold, Zanga, turn.

Zan. My lord.

Alon. Shut close the doors,

That not a spirit find an entrance here.

Zan. My lord's obey'd.

Alon. I fee that thou art frighted.

If thou doft love me, I shall fill thy heart

With fcorpions stings.

Zan. If I do love, my lord ?

Alon. Come near me, let me rest upon thy bosom;

(What pillow like the bosom of a friend?)

For I am fick at heart.

Zan. Speak, Sir, O fpeak,

And take me from the rack.

Alon. And is there need

Of words? Behold a wonder! See my tears!

Zan. I feel them too. Heav'n grant my fenses fail me!

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I rather would lofe them, than have this real.

Alon. Go, take a round thro' all things in thy thought,

And find that one; for there is only one

Which cou'd extort my tears; find that, and tell Thy felf my mifery, and spare me the pain.

Zan. Sorrow can think but ill - I am bewilder'd;

I know not where I am.

Alon. Think, think no more,

It ne'er can enter in an honest heart.

I'll tell thee then — I cannot — yet I do, By wanting force to give it utterance.

Zan. Speak, ease your heart; its throbs will break your bosom.

Alon. I am most happy: mine is victory, Mine the king's favour, mine the nation's shout,

And great men make their fortunes of my smiles.

O curse of curses! in the lap of bleshing
To be most curst! — My Leonora's false!

Zan. Save me, my lord!

Alon. My Leonora's false! [Gives bim the letter.

Zan. Then heav'n has lost its image here on earth.

[While Zanga reads the letter, he trembles, and shews the utmost concern.

Alon. Good-natur'd man! he makes my pains his

I durst not read it; but I read it now In thy concern.

Zan. Did you not read it then?

Alon, Mine eye just touch'd it, and could bear no more.

Zan. Thus perish all that gives Alonzo pain! [Tears the letter.

Alon. Why didft thou tear it?

Zan. Think of it no more,

Twas your mittake, and groundless are your fears.

Alon. And didst thou tremble then for my mistake?

Or give the whole contents, or by the pangs

That feed upon my heart, thy life's in danger.

Zan.

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Zan. Is this Alonzo's language to his Zanga? Draw forth your fword, and find the fecret here. For whose fake is it, think you, I conceal it? Wherefore this rage? Because I seek your peace? I have no interest in suppressing it, But what good-natur'd tenderness for you Obliges me to have. Not mine the heart That will be damn'd, tho' all the world should know it. Alon. Then my worst fears are true, and life is past. Zan. What has the rashness of my passion utter'd? I know not what; but rage is our distraction, And all its words are wind - Yet fure, I think, I nothing own'd - but grant I did confess, What is a letter? letters may be forg'd. For heav'n's fweet fake, my lord, lift up your heart. Some foe to your repole -

Alon. So, heav'n look on me, As I can't find the man I have offended.

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Zan. Indeed! [Afide.] - Our innocence is not our

They take offence, who have not been offended;
They feek our ruin too, who speak us fair,
And death is often ambush'd in their smiles.
We know not whom we have to fear. 'Tis certain
A letter may be forg'd, and in a point
Of such a dreadful consequence as this,
One would rely on nought that might be false
Think, have you any other cause to doubt her?
Away, you can find none. Resume your spirit;
All's well again.

Alon. O that ft were!

Zan. It is;
For who would credit that, which credited,
Makes hell fuperfluous, by fuperior pains,
Without fuch proofs as cannot be withflood?
Has the not ever been to virtue train'd?
Is not her fame as spotless as the fun?
Her sex's envy, and the boast of Spain?

Aloni

THE REVENGE. 38

Alon. O Zanga ! it is that confounds me moff. That full in opposition to appearance -

Zan. No more, my lord, for you condemn yourfelf.

What is absurdity, but to believe

Against appearance? You cannot yet, I find, Subdue your passion to your better sense; -And, truth to tell, it does not much displease me. 'Tis fit our indiferetions should be check'd With some degree of pain.

Alon. What indifcretion?

Zan. Come, you must bear to hear your faults from

Had you not fent Don Carlos to the court The night before the battle, that foul flave. Who forg'd the fenfeless scroll which gives you pain, Had wanted footing for his villainy.

Alon. I fent him not.

Zan. Not fend him !- Ha! - That ftrikes me. I thought he came on message to the King. Is there another cause could justify His shunning danger, and the promis'd fight? But I perhaps may think too rigidly; So long an absence, and impatient love -

Alon. In my confusion, that had quite escap'd me. By heav'n, my wounded foul does bleed afresh; 'Tis clear as day - for Carlos is fo brave, He lives not but on fame, he hants for danger, And is enamour'd of the face of death. How then could he decline the next day's battle." But for the transports ?- Oh, it must be so -Inhuman! by the loss of his own honour, To buy the ruin of his friend!

Zan. You wrong him; He knew not of your love.

Alon. Hal-

Zan. That flings home. Alon. Indeed, he knew not of my treach'rous love : Proofs rife on proofs, and still the last the strongest. Th' eternal law of things declares it true,

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Which calls for judgments on diftinguish'd guilt, And loves to make our crime our punishment. Love is my torture, love was first my erime; For the was his, my friend's, and he (O horror !) Confided all in me. O facred faith! How dearly I abide thy violation!

Zan. Were then their loves far gone?

Alon. The father's will There bore a total fway; and he, as foon As news arriv'd that Carlos' fleet was feen From off our coast, fir'd with the love of gold, Determin'd, that the very fun which faw Carlos' return, should fee his daughter wed.

Zan. Indeed, my lord; then you must pardon me, If I prefume to mitigate the crime. Confider, strong allurements fosten guilt;

Long was his absence, ardent was his love, At midnight his return, the next day deftin'd For his efpoufals - 'twas a firong temptation.

Alon. Temptation!

Zan. 'Twas but gaining of one night.

Alon. One night!

Zan. That crime could ne'er return again.

Alon. Again! By heav'n, thou doft infult thy lord. Temptation! One night gain'd! O ftings and death! And am I then undone? Alas, my Zanga! And doft thou own it too? Deny it fill, And rescue me one moment from distraction.

Zan. My lord, I hope the beft.

Alon. False, foolish hope, And infolent to me! Thou know'ft it false; It is as glaring as the noon-tide fun. Devil! - This morning, after three years coldness, To rush at once into a passion for me! 'Twas time to feign, 'twas time to get another,

When her first fool was fated with her beauties. Zan. What fays my lord? Did Leonora then Never before disclose her passion for you?

Alon. Never.

Zan. Throughout the whole three years?

Alon. O never! never!

Why, Zanga, should'st thou strive! "Tis all in vain: Tho' thy soul labours, it can find no reed For hope to catch at. Ah! I'm plunging down Ten thousand thousand fathoms in despair.

Zan. Hold, Sir, I'll break your fall-Wave ev'ry

fear,

And be a man again—Had he enjoy'd her, Be most assur'd, he had resign'd her to you. With less reluctance.

Alon. Ha! Refign her to me!——
Refign her! — Who refign'd her? — Double death!
How could I doubt so long? My heart is broke.
First love her to distraction! then refign her!

Zan. But was it not with utmost agony?

Alon. Grant that, he still refign'd her; that's enough. Would he pluck out his eye to give it me? Tear out his heart? — She was his heart no more—Nor was it with reluctance he refign'd her; By heav'n he ask'd, he courted me to wed. I thought it strange; 'tis now no longer so.

Zan. Was't his request? Are you right fure of that?-

I fear the letter was not all a tale.

Alon. A tale! There's proof equivalent to fight.

Zan. I should distrust my fight on this occasion.

Alon. And so should I; by heav'n, I think I should.

What! Leonora the divine, by whom

We guess'd at angels! Oh! I'm all confusion.

Zan. You now are too much ruffled to think clearly. Since blifs and horror, life and death hang on it, Go to your chamber, there maturely weigh Each circumflance; confider, above all, That it is jealoufy's peculiar nature. To fwell fmall things to great; nay, out of nought To conjure much, and then to lose its reason Amid the hideous phantoms it has form'd.

Alon. Had I ten thousand lives, I'd give them all To be deceiv'd. I fear 'tis dooms-day with me.

And:

And yet she seem'd so pure, that I thought heav'n Borrow'd her form for virtue's self to wear, To gain her lovers with the sons of men.

[Exit Alonzo.

Enter Ifabella.

Zan. Thus far it works auspiciously. My patient Thrives underneath my hand in misery. He's gone to think; that is, to be distracted.

Isab. I overheard your conference, and faw you,

To my amazement, tear the letter.

h.

Zan. There,
There, Ifabella, I out-did myfelf.
For tearing it, I not fecure it only
ln its first force; but superadd a new.
For who can now the character examine
To cause a doubt, much less detect the fraud?
And after tearing it, as loth to shew
The soul contents, if I should swear it now
A forgery, my lord would disbelieve me,
Nay more, would disbelieve the more I swore.
But is the picture happily dispos'd of?

Ifab. It is.

Zan. That's well — Ah! what is well? O pang to think!

O dire necessity! is this my province?
Whither, my soul, ah! whither art thou sunk
Beneath thy sphere? Ere while, far, far above
Such little arts, dissembling, falshoods, frauds,
The trash of villainy itself, which falls
To cowards and poor wretches wanting bread.
Does this become a soldier? This become.
Whom armies follow'd, and a people low'd?
My martial glory withers at the thought.
But great my end; and since there are no other,
These means are just, they shine with borrow'd light,
Illustrious from the purpose they pursue.

THE REVENGE

42

And greater fure my merit, who to gain.

A point sublime, can such a task sustain;

To wade thro' ways obscene, my honour bend,

And shock my nature, to attain my end.

Late time shall wonder; that my joys will raise;

For wonder is involuntary praise.



ACT IV. SCENE I.

Enter Alonzo and Zanga.

ALONZO.

OH, what a pain to think! when every thought,
Perplexing thought, in intricacies runs,
And reason knitt th' inextricable toil,
In which herself is taken! I am lost,
Poor insect that I am, I am involv'd,
And bury'd in the web myself have wrought!
One argument is balanc'd by another,
And reason meets in doubtful fight,
And proofs are countermin'd by equal proofs.
No more I'll bear this battle of the mind,
This inward anarchy; but find my wise,
And to her trembling heart presenting death,
Force all the secret from her.

Zan. O forbear!

You totter on the very brink of ruin.

Alon. What doft thou mean? Zan. That will discover all,

And kill my hopes. What can I think or do? [A

[Afiat.

Zan.

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Zan. Force the secret from her!
What's perjury to such a crime as this?
Will she confess it then? O groundless hope!
But rest assur'd, she'll make this accusation,
Or false or true, your ruin with the king;
Such is her father's power.

Alon. No more, I care not;

Rather than groan beneath this load, I'll die.

Zan. But for what better will you change this load? Grant you should know it, would not that be worse?

Alon. No, it would cure me of my mortal pangs:

By hatred and contempt I should despise her, And all my love-bred agonies would vanish.

Zan. Ah! were I fure of that, my lord -

Alon. What then?

Zan. You should not hazard life to gain the secret.

Alon. What dost thou mean? Thou know's I'm on the rack.

I'll not be play'd with; speak, if thou hast aught,

Or I this instant fly to Leonora.

Zan. That is, to death. My lord, I am not yet
Quite fo far gone in guilt to fuffer it,
Tho' gone too far, heav'n knows—'Tis I am guilty—
I have took pains, as you I know observ'd,
To hinder you from diving in the secret,
And turn'd aside your thoughts from the detection.

Alon. Thou doft confound me.

Zan. I confound myfelf,
And frankly own it, though to my shame I own it;
Nought but your life in danger could have torn
The secret out, and made me own my crime.

Alon. Speak quickly; Zanga, speak.

Zan. Not yet, dread Sir:

First I must be affur'd, that if you find The fair one guilty, scorn, as you assur'd me, Shall conquer love and rage, and heal your soul.

Alon. Oh! 'twill, by heav'n.

Zan: Alas! I fear it much,

And fcarce can hope fo far; but I of this

Exact

Exact your folemn oath, that you'll abstain From all felf-violence, and fave my lord.

Alon. I trebly fwear.

Zan. You'll bear it like a man?

Alon. A god.

Zan. Such have you been to me, these tears confess it,
And pour'd forth miracles of kindness on me:
And what amends is now within my pow'r,
But to confess, expose myself to justice,
And as a blessing claim my punishment?

Know then, Don Carlos ---

Alon. Oh!

Zan. You cannot bear it.

Alon. Go on, I'll have it, tho' it blast mankind; I'll have it all, and instantly. Go on.

Zan. Don Carles did return at dead of night-

Enter Leonora.

Leon. My lord Alonzo, you are ablent from us, And quite undo our joy.

Alen. I'll come, my love:

Be not our friends deferted by us both?

I'll follow you this moment.

Leon. My good lord, I do observe severity of thought

. Upon your brow. Aught hear you from the Moors?

Alex. No, my delight.

Leon. What'then employ'd your mind?

Alon. Thou, love, and only thou; so heav'n befriend me,

As other thought can find no entrance here.

Leen. How good in you, my lord, whom nations

Solicit, and a world in arms obeys,

To drop one thought on me!

[He shows the utmost impatience.

Alen. Doft thou then prize it?

Leon.

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Leon. Do you then afk it?

Alon. Know then to thy comfort
Thou hast me all, my throbbing heart is sull
With thee alone, I've thought of nothing else;
Nor shall, I from my soul believe, till death.
My life, our friends expect thee.

Leon. I obey.

Alon. Is that the face of curs'd hypocrify?

If she is guilty, stars are made of darkness,

And beauty shall no more belong to heav'n

Don Carlos did return at dead at night

Proceed, good Zanga, so thy tale began.

Zan. Don Carles did return at dead of night; That night, by chance (ill chance for me!) did I Command the watch that guards the palace gate.

He told me he had letters for the king,

Dispatch'd from you.

Alon. The villain ly'd!

Zan. My lord, I pray forbear - Transported at his fight, After so long a bondage, and your friend, (Who could fuspect him of an artifice?) No farther I enquir'd, but let him pass, False to my truft, at least imprudent in it. Our watch reliev'd, I went into the garden, As is my custom, when the night's ferene, And took a moon-light walk: when foon I heard A ruftling in an arbour that was near me. I faw two lovers in each other's arms, Embracing and embrac'd. Anon the man Arose, and falling back some paces from her, Gaz'd ardently awhile, then rush'd at once, And throwing all himself into her bosom, There foftly figh'd; "O night of ecftafy! When shall we meet again?" Don Carlos then Led Leonora forth.

Alon. Oh! Oh my heart! [He finks into a chair. Zav. Groan on, and with the found refresh my foul! "Tis thro' his heart, his knees smite one another.

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Leon.

"Tis thro' his brain, his eye-balls roll in anguish. [Afide. My lord, my lord, why do you rack my foul? Speak to me, let me know that you still live. Do not you know me, Sir? Pray look upon me; You think too deeply. I'm your own Zanga, So lov'd, so cherish'd, and so faithful to you.—
Why start you in such sury? Nay, my lord, For heav'n's sake sheath your sword! What can this mean?

Fool that I was to trust you with the secret,
And you unkind to break your word with me.
O passion for a woman! On the ground?
Where is your boasted courage? Where your scorn!
And prudent rage, that was to cure your grief,
And chace your love-bred agonies away?
Rise, Sir, for honour's sake. Why should the Moors,
Why should the vanquish'd, triumph?

Alon. Would to heaven That I were lower still! O she was all!-My fame, my friendship, and my love of arms, All stoop'd to her, my blood was her possession. Deep in the fecret foldings of my heart She liv'd with life, and far the dearer she. But - and no more - fet nature on a blaze, Give her a fit of jealoufy ---- away-To think on't is the torment of the damn'd, And not to think on't is impossible. How fair the cheek that first alarm'd my foul! How bright the eye that fet it on a flame! How foft the breaft on which I laid my peace For years to flumber, unawak'd by care! How herce the transport! how sublime the blife! How deep, how black the horror, and despair! Zan. You faid you'd bear it like a man. Alon. I do.

Am I not almost distracted?

Zan. Pray be calm.

Alon. As hurricanes: be thou affur'd of that.

Zan. Is this the wife Alonzo?

Alon.

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Alon. Villain, no!

He dy'd in the arbour, he was murder'd there;
I am his Dæmon tho'—My wife! my wife!

Zan. Alas! he weeps, Alin. Go, dig her grave.

Zan. My lord!

Alon. But that her blood's too hot, I would caroufe it

Around my bridal board.

Zan. And I would pledge thee. [Afide. Alon. But I may talk too fast. Pray let me think.

And reason mildly. — Wedded and undone
Before one night descends. —— O hasty evil!
What friend to comfort me in my extreme!
Where's Carlos? Why is Carlos absent from me?
Does he know what has happen'd?

Zan. My good lord!

Alon. O depth of horrors! He! --- my bosom friend!

Zan. Alas! compose yourself, my lord.

Alox. To death!

Gaze on ber with both eyes fo ardently!

Give them the vultures, tear him all in pieces!

Zan. Most excellent!

[Afide.

Alon. Hark! you can keep a secret. In yonder arbour bound with jasmine -

Who's that? What villain's that? unhand her

Murder! — How they grind My heart betwint them! — O let go my heart! Yet let it go — Embracing and embrac'd! O peffilence! — Who let him in? A traitor.

[Goes to stab Zanga, be prevents bim. Alas! my head turns round, and my limbs fail me.

Zan. My lord!

Alon. O villain, villain most accurst!

If thou didft know it, why didft let me wed?

Zan. Hear me, my lord, your anger will abate.

I knew it not, I saw them in the garden; But saw no more than you might well expect

To

To see in lovers destin'd for each other.

By heav'n I thought their meeting innocent.

Who could suspect fair Leonora's virtue?

'Till after-proofs conspir'd to blacken it;

Sad proofs, which came too late, which broke not out,

(Eternal curses on Alvarez' haste!)

'Till holy rites had made the wanton yours;

And then, I own, I labour'd to conceal it,

In duty and compassion to your peace.

Alon. Live now, be damn'd hereafter; for I want

O night of ecftafy! — Ha! was't not so?

I will enjoy this murder — Let me think —

The jasmine bow'r, 'tis secret and remote;

Go wait me there, and take thy dagger with thee.

How the sweet sound still sings within my ear!
When shall we meet again? - To-night, in hell.

As he is going, Enter Leonora.

Ha! I'm furpriz'd! I stagger at her charms!
O angel-devil!—Shall I stab her now?
No, it shall be as I at first determin'd:
To kill her now were half my vengeance lost.
Then must I now dissemble—if I can.

Leon. My lord, excuse me; see, a second time
I come in embassy from all your sriends,
Whose joys are languid, uninspir'd by you.

Alon. This moment, Leanora, I was coming
To thee, and all—but sure, or I mistake,
Or thou canst well inspire my friends with joy.

Leon. Why sighs my lord?

Alon. I sigh'd not, Leonora.

Leon. I thought you did; your sighs are mine, my lord.

And I shall feel them all.

Alon. Dost flatter me?

Leon.

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Leon. If my regards for you are flattery, Full far indeed I stretch'd the compliment In this day's folemn rite.

Alon. What rite?

Leon. You sport me.

Alon. Indeed I do; my heart is full of mirth.

Leon. And fo is mine - I look on cheerfulness

As on the health of virtue.

Alon. Virtue! - Damn -

Leon. What fays my lord?

Alon. Thou art exceeding fair.

Leon. Beauty alone is but of little worth;
But when the foul and body, of a piece,
Both shine alike, then they obtain a price,
And are a fit reward for gallant actions,
Heav'n's pay on earth for such great souls as yours;
If fair and innocent, I am your due.

Alon. Innocent!

[Afide.

Leon. How! my lord, I interrupt you.

Alon. No, my best life, I must not part with thee, This hand is mine. O! what a hand is here? So soft, souls fink into it, and are lost.

Leon. In tears, my Lord?

Alon. What less can speak my joy?
I gaze, and I forget my own existence.
'Tis all a vision, my head swims in heav'n.

Wherefore? Oh! wherefore this expence of beauty?

And wherefore? Oh!

Why, I could gaze upon thy looks for ever, And drink in all my being from thine eyes; And I could fnatch a flaming thunderbolt, And hurl destruction.

Leon. How, my lord, what mean you? Acquaint me with the fecret of your heart, Or cast me out for ever from your love.

Alon. Art thou concern'd for me? Leon. My lord, you fright me.

Is this the fondness of your nuptial hour?

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I am ill us'd, my lord, I must not bear it.
Why, when I woo your hand, is it deny'd me?
Your very eyes, why are they taught to shun me?
Nay, my good lord, I have a title here,

[Taking bis band.

And I will have it. Am not I your wife?
Have not I just authority to know
That heart, which I have purchas'd with my own?
Lay it before me, then; it is my due,
Unkind Alonzo! tho' I might demand it,
Behold, I kneel! See, Leonora kneels,
And deigns to be a beggar for her own!
Tell me the secret; I conjure you, tell me.
The bride foregoes the homage of her day,
Alvarez' daughter trembles in the dust.
Speak, then; I charge you, speak; or I expire,
And load you with my death. My lord—my lord!
Alon. Ha! ha! [He breaks from ber, and
she sinks upon the floor.

Leen. Are these the joys which fondly I conceiv'd?
And is it thus a wedded life begins?
What did I part with when I gave my heart?
I knew not that all happiness went with it.
Why did I leave my tender father's wing,
And venture into love? The maid that loves
Goes out to sea upon a shatter'd plank,
And puts her trust in miracles for safety.
Where shall I sigh? where pour out my complaints?
He that should hear, should succour, should redress,
He is the source of all.

Alon. Go to thy chamber, I foon will follow; that which now disturbs thee Shall be clear'd up, and thou shalt not condemn me.

Oh, how like innocence she looks! What, stab her,
And rush into her blood?——I never can.
In her guilt shines, and nature holds my hand.
How then? Why thus—No more; it is determin'd.

Enter

Enter Zanga.

Zan. I fear his heart has fail'd him. She must die. Can I not rouze the fnake that's in his bosom, To fling our human nature, and effect it? Afide. Alon. This vast and solid earth, that blazing sun, Those skies thro' which it rolls, must all have end. What then is man? the smallest part of nothing. Day buries day, month month, and year the year. Our life is but a chain of many deaths; Can then death's felf be fear'd? our life much rather. Life is the defart, life the solitude; Death joins us to the great majority: 'Tis to be borne to Plato's, and to Cafar; 'Tis to be great for ever; 'Tis pleasure, 'tis ambition, then, to die. Zan. I think, my lord, you talk'd of death. Alon. I did.

Zan. I give joy, then Leonora's dead.

Alon. No, Zanga, the greatest guilt is mine.

'Tis mine, who might have mark'd his midnight visit,
Who might have mark'd his tameness to resign her,
Who might have mark'd her sudden turn of love:
These, and a thousand tokens more; and yet,
(For which the Saints absolve my foul!) did wed.

Zan. Where does this tend?

Alon. To shed a woman's blood

Would stain my sword, and make my wars inglorious;
But just resentment in myself bears in it

A stamp of greatness above vulgar minds.

He who, superior to the checks of nature,

Dares make his life the victim of his reason,

Does, in some fort, that reason deify,

And take a slight at heav'n.

Zan. Alas! my lord,

Zan. Alas! my lord,
'Tis not your reason, but her beauty, finds

Thofe

Those arguments, and throws you on your sword.
You cannot close an eye that is so bright,
You cannot strike a breast that is so soft,
That has ten thousand ecstasses in store—
For Carlos?——No, my lord, I mean for you.

Alon. Oh! thro' my heart and marrow! Pr'ythee

fpare me :

No more upbraid the weakness of thy lord. I own, I try'd, I quarrel'd with my heart, And push'd it on, and bid it give her death; But, oh! her eyes struck first, and murder'd me.

Zan. I know not what to answer to my lord.

Men are but men; we did not make ourselves.

Farewell then, my best lord, fince you must die.

O that I were to share your monument,

And in eternal darkness close these eyes

Against those scenes which I am doom'd to suffer!

Alon. What dost thou mean?
Zan. And is it then unknown?

O grief of heart, to think that you should ask it!
Sure you distrust that ardent love I bear you,
Else could you doubt when you are laid in dust—
But it will cut my poor heart through and through,
To see those revel on your facred tomb,
Who brought you thither by their lawless loves.
For there they'll revel, and exult to find
Him sleep so fast, who else might mar their joys.

Alen. Distraction! - But, Don Carles, well thou

Is sheath'd in steel, and bent on other thoughts.

Zan. I'll work him to the murder of his friend;

Yes, till the sever of his blood returns,

While her last kiss still glows upon his cheek. [Afide.

But when he finds Alonzo is no more,

How will he rush, like lightning, to her arms!

There sigh, there languish, there pour out his soul;

But not in grief—— sad obsequies to thee!

But thou wilt be at peace, nor see, nor hear

THE REVENGE.

The burning kiss, the sigh of ecstasy, Their throbbing hearts that jostle one another: Thank heav'n, these torments will be all my own,

Alon. I'll ease thee of that pain. Let Carlos die, O'ertake him on the road, and see it done.

Tis my command. [Gives bis Signet.

Zan. I dare not disobey.

Alon. My Zanga, now I have thy leave to die.

Zan. Ah, Sir! think, think again. Are all men buried. In Carlos' grave? You know not woman-kind. When once the throbbing of the heart has broke. The modest zone, with which it first was ty'd, Each man she meets will be a Carlos to her.

Alon. That thought has more of hell than had the former.

Another, and another, and another!
And each shall cast a smile upon my tomb.
I am convinc'd; I must not, will not die.

Zan. You cannot die; nor can you murder her. What then remains? In nature no third way, But to forget, and so to love again.

Alon. Oh!

Zan. If you forgive, the world will call you good; If you forget, the world will call you wife; If you receive her to your grace again, The world will call you, very, very kind.

Alon. Zanga, I understand thee well. She dies, Tho' my arm trembles at the stroke. She dies.

Zan. That's truly great. What think you 'twas set up
The Greek and Roman name in such a lustre,
But doing right in stern despite to nature,
Shutting their ears to all her little cries,
When great, august, and god-like justice call'd?
At Aulis one pour'd out a daughter's life,
And gain'd more glory than by all his wars;
Another slew his fister in just rage;
A third, the theme of all succeeding times,
Gave to the cruel ax a darling son.

Nay,

THE REVENGE.

54 Nay, more, for justice some devote themselves, As he at Carthage, an immortal name! Yet there is one step left above 'em all, Above their history, above their fable, A Wife, Bride, Miftress, unenjoy'd -And tread upon the Greek and Roman glory. Alon. 'Tis done! - Again new transports fire my brain:

I had forgot it; 'tis my bridal night. Friend, give me joy; we must be gay together; And when with garlands the full bowl is crown'd, And mufick gives the elevating found, And golden carpets spread the facred floor, And a new day the blazing tapers pour; Thou, Zanga, thou my folemn friends invite, From the dark realms of everlasting night; Call Vengeance, call the Furies, call Despair, And Death, our chief-invited gueft, be there; He, with pale hand, shall lead the Bride, and spread Eternal curtains round our nuptial bed. Excunt.





ACT V. SCENE I.

Enter Alonzo.

ALONZO.

Pitiful! O terrible to fight!

Poor mangled shade! all cover'd o'er with wounds,

And so disguis'd with blood!—Who murder'd thee?

Tell thy sad tale, and thou shalt be reveng'd.

Ha! Carlos?—Horror! Carlos?—Oh, away!

Go to the grave, or let me fink to mine.

I cannot bear the sight—What sight?—Where am I?

There's nothing here—— If this was fancy's work,

She draws a picture strongly.

Enter Zanga.

Zan. Ha! —— You're pale.

Alon. Is Carlos murder'd?

Zan. I obey'd your order.

Six russians overtook him on the road;

He fought as he was wont, and four he slew,

Then sunk beneath an hundred wounds, to death.

His last breath bless'd Alonzo, and desir'd

His bones might rest near yours.

Alon. O Zanga! Zanga!

But I'll not think; for I must act, and thinking

Would ruin me for action. O the medley

Of right and wrong! the chaos of my brain!

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He should, and should not die—You should obey,
And not obey——It is a day of darkness,
Of contradictions, and of many deaths.
Where's Leonora, then? Quick, answer me:
I'm deep in horrors, I'll be deeper still.
I find thy artifice did take effect,

And she forgives my late deportment to her.

Zan. I told her, from your childhood, you was wont,
On any great furprize, but chiefly then
When cause of sorrow bore it company,
To have your passion shake the seat of reason;
A momentary ill, which soon blew o'er.
Then did I tell her of Don Carlos' death,
(Wisely suppressing by what means he sell)
And laid the blame on that. At first she doubted;
But such the honest artisce I us'd,
And such her ardent wish it should be true,
That she, at length, was fully satisfy'd.

Alon. 'Twas well she was. In our late interview My passion so far threw me from my guard, (Methinks' tis strange!) that, conscious of her guilt, She saw not, thro' its thin disguise, my heart.

Zan. But what defign you, Sir, and how?

Alon. I'll tell thee.

Thus I've ordain'd it. In the jasmine bow'r,

The place which she dishonour'd with her guilt,

There will I meet her; the appointment's made;

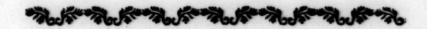
And calmly spread (for I can do it now)
The blackness of her crime before her sight,
And then, with all the cool solemnity

Of public justice, give her to the grave. [Exit. Zan. Why, get thee gone! horror and night go with

Sisters of Acheron, go hand in hand, Go, dance around the bow'r, and close them in; And tell them that I sent you to salute them. Profane the ground, and for th' ambrosial rose, And breath of jasmine, let hemlock blacken,

And

And deadly nightshade poison all the air,
For the sweet nightingale may ravens croak,
Toads pant, and adders rustle thro' the leaves;
May serpents winding up the trees let fall
Their hissing necks upon them from above,
And mingle kiss — such as I should give them. [Exit.



SCENE, the Bower.

Leonora fleeping. Enter Alonzo.

Sweet myrtles, and ye golden orange groves!

Why do you smile? why do you look to fair?

Are ye not blasted as I enter in?

Yes, see how every flow'r lets fall its head!

How shudders every leaf without a wind!

How every green is as the ivy pale!

Did ever midnight ghosts affemble here?

Have these sweet echoes ever learnt to groan?

Joy-giving, love-inspiring, holy bow'r!

Know, in thy fragrant bosom thou receiv'st

A — murderer! Oh! I shall stain thy lities,

And horror will usurp the seat of bliss.

So Luciser broke into paradise,

And soon damnation follow'd. [He advances.] Ha! she

The day's uncommon heat has overcome her.
Then take, my longing eyes, your last full gaze.
Oh, what a fight is here! how dreadful fair!
Who would not think that being innocent?
Where shall I strike? who strikes her, strikes himself.
My own life-blood will issue at her wound.
O my distracted heart! — O cruel heav'n!

fleeps-

05

To give such charms as these, and then call man, Mere man, to be your executioner.

Was it because it was too hard for you?

But see she smiles! I never shall smile more.

It strongly tempts me to a parting kiss.

[Going, he ftarts back. Ha! smile again? She dreams of him she loves.

Curse on her charms! I'll stab her thro' them all.

As he is going to Strike, she wakes.

Leon. My lord, your flay was long, and yonder lull Of falling waters tempted me to reit,

Dispirited with noon's excessive heat.

Alon. Ye pow'rs! with what an eye she mends the day! While they were clos'd I should have giv'n the blow. [Aside. O for a last embrace! and then for justice: Thus heav'n and I shall both be fatisfy'd.

Leon. What fays my lord?
Alon. Why this Alonzo fays:

If love were endless, men were gods: 'tis that Does counterbalance travel, danger, pain — 'Tis heav'n's expedient to make mortals bear The light, and cheat them of the peaceful grave.

Leon. Alas! my lord, why talk you of the grave? Your friend is dead; in friendship you sustain

A mighty lofs, repair it with my love.

Alon. Thy love? thou piece of witchcraft! I would

Thou brightest angel! I could gaze for ever.

Where hadst thou this? Enchantress, tell me where;

Which with a touch works miracles, boils up

My blood to tumults, and turns round my brain:

Ev'n now thou swimm'st before me. I shall lose thee:

No, I will make thee sure, and class thee all.

Who turn'd this slender waist with so much art,

And shut persection in so small a ring?

Who spread that pure expanse of white above,

On which the dazzled sight can find no rest;

But, drunk with beauty, wanders up and down

For ever, and for ever finds new charms? But, O those eyes! those murderers! O whence, Whence didft thou feal their burning orbs? from heav'n?

Thou didft; and 'tis religion to adore them. Leon. My best Alonzo, moderate your thoughts: Extremes still fright me, tho' of love itself.

Alon. Extremes indeed! it hurried me away; But I come home again—and now for justice— And now for death - It is impossible -Sure fuch were made by heav'n guiltless to fin, Or in their guilt to laugh at punishment. I leave her to just heav'n.

[Drops the dagger, and goes off. Leon. Ha! a dagger!

What dost thou fay, thou minister of death? What dreadful tale doft tell me? Let me think.

Enter Zanga.

Zan. Death to my tow'ring hopes! O fall from high! My close long-labour'd scheme at once is blasted. That dagger found will cause her to enquire; Enquiry will discover all; my hopes Of vengeance perish; I myself am lost -Curse on the coward's heart! wither his hand Which held the steel in vain! - What can be done? -Where can I fix? - that's fomething fill - 'twill breed Fell rage and bitterness betwixt their touls, Which may perchance grow up to greater evil: Afide. If not, 'tis all I can - It shall be so -Leon. O Zanga! I am finking in my fears: Alenzo dropt his dagger as he left me, And left me in a strange disorder too. What can this mean? Angels preferve his life! Zan. Yours, madam, yours.

Leen. What, Zanga, doit thou fay?

Zan.

Zan. Carry your goodness then to such extremes, So blinded to the faults of him you love, That you perceive not he is jealous?

Leon. Heav'ns!

And yet a thousand things recur that swear it.

What villain could inspire him with that thought?

It is not of the growth of his own nature.

Zan. Some villain. Who, hell knows; but he is jealous; And 'tis most sit a heart so pure as yours Do itself justice, and affert its honour, And make him conscious of his stab to virtue.

Leon. Jealous! it fickens at my heart. Unkind, Ungen'rous, groundless, weak, and insolent! Why? wherefore? on what shadow of occasion? 'Tis fascination, 'tis the wrath of heav'n For the collected crimes of all his race. Oh how the great man lessens to my thought! How could so mean a vice as jealousy, Unnatural child of ignorance and guilt, Which tears and feeds upon its parent's heart, Live in a throng of such exalted virtues? I fcorn and hate, yet love him, and adore. I cannot, will not, dare not think it true, Till from himself I know it.

[Exit.

Zan. This fucceeds

Just to my wish. Now she with violence

Upbraids him. He, well knowing she is guilty,

Rages no less; and if on either side

The waves run high, there still lives hope of ruin.

Enter Alonzo.

My lord.

Alen. O Zanga! hold thy peace, I am no coward;
But heav'n itself did hold my hand; I selt it,
By the well-being of my soul, I did.
I'll think of vengeance at another season.
Zan. My lord, her guilt——

Alon.

Alon. Perdition on the Moor

For that one word! Ah! do not rouze that thought;
I have o'erwhelm'd it much as possible:
Away, then, let us talk of other things.
I tell thee, Moor, I love her to distraction.
If 'tis my shame, why be it so —— I love her;
Nor can I help it; 'tis impos'd upon me
By some superior and resistless pow'r.
I could not hurt her to be lord of earth;
It shocks my nature like a stroke from heav'n.
Angels defend her, as if innocent!
But see, my Leenora comes: —— Be gone. [Ex. Zanga.

Enter Leonora.

O feen for ever, yet for ever new! The conquer'd thou dost conquer o'er again, Inslicting wound on wound.

Leon. Alas, my lord, What need of this to me?

Alon. Ha! dost thou weep? Leon. Have I no cause?

Alon. If love is thy concern
Thou hast no cause; none ever lov'd like me.
But wherefore this? Is it to break my heart,
Which loses so much blood for every tear?

Leon. Is it so tender?

Alon. Is it not? O heav'n!

Doubt of my love? Why, I am nothing else;

It quite absorbs my every other passion.

O that this one embrace would last for ever!

Leon. Could this man ever mean to wrong my virtue? Could this man e'er design upon my life? Impossible! I throw away the thought.

These tears declare how much I taste the joy Of being folded in your arms and heart;
My universe does lie within that space.

This

This dagger bore false witness.

Alon. Ha! my dagger?
It rouzes horrid images. Away,

Away with it, and let us talk of love, Plunge ourselves deep into the sweet illusion,

And hide us there from ev'ry other thought.

Leon. It touches you.

Alon. Let's talk of love.

Leon. Of death !

Alon. As thou lov'ft happiness -

Leon. Of murder !

Alon. Rafh,

Rash woman! yet forbear.

Leon. Approve my wrongs!

Alon. Then must I sty for thy sake and my own.

Leon. Nay, by my injuries, you first must hear me:

Stab me, then think it much to hear my groan?

Alon. Heav'ns strike me deaf!

Leon. It well may sting you home.

Alon. Alas! thou quite mistak'st my cause of pain;

Yet, yet difmiss me; I am all in flames.

Leon. Who has most cause? you, or myself? What act

Of my whole life encourag'd you to this?
Or of your own, what guilt has drawn it on you?

You find me kind, and think me kind to all;

The weak, ungenerous error of your fex.
What could infrire the thought? We off neft

What could inspire the thought? We oft'nest judge From our own hearts; and is your's then so frail,

It prompts you to conceive thus ill of me? He that can stoop to harbour such a thought,

Deferves to find it true.

[Holding him.

Alon. O fex, fex, fex!

[Turning on her.]

The language of you all. Ill-fated woman!
Why hast thou forc'd me back into the gulf
Of agonies I had block'd up from thought?
I know the cause: thou saw'st me impotent

Ere while to hurt thee, therefore thou turn'ft on me :

But, by the pangs I fuffer, to thy woe.

For

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For fince thou hast replung'd me in my torture, I will be fatisfy'd.

Leon. Be fatisfy'd!

Alon. Yes, thy own mouth shall witness it against thee: I will be fatisfy'd.

Leon. Of what?

How dar'ft thou ask that question? Woman, woman, Weak, and affur'd at once; thus 'tis for ever. Who told thee that thy virtue was suspected? Who told thee I design'd upon thy life? You found the dagger; but that could not speak; Nor did I tell thee; who did tell thee then? Guilt, conscious guilt!

Leon. This to my face? O heav'n!

Alon. This to thy very foul. Leon. Thou'rt not in earnest?

Alon. Serious as death.

Leon. Then heav'n have mercy on thee.
Till now I firuggled not to think it true;
I fought conviction, and would not believe it;
And dost thou force me? This shall not be borne;
Thou shalt repent this insult.

[Going.

Alon. Madam, stay.
Your passion's wise, 'tis a disguise for guilt:

'Tis my turn now to fix you here awhile; You and your thousand arts shall not escape me.

Leon. Arts?

Alon. Arts. Confess; for death is in my hand.

Leon. 'Tis in your words.

Alon. Confess, confess, confess!

Nor tear my veins with passion to compel thee.

Leon. I scorn to answer thee, presumptuous man!

Alon. Deny then, and incur a fouler shame.

Where did I find this picture? Leon. Ha! Don Carlos?

By my best hopes, more welcome than thy own.

Alon. I know it; but is vice so very rank,

That

That thou should'st dare to dash it in my face? Nature is sick of thee, abandon'd woman!

Leon. Repent.

Alon. Is that for me?

Leon. Fall, ask my pardon.

Alon. Aftonishment!

Leon. Dar'ft thou perfift to think I am dishonest?

Alon. I know thee fo.

Leon. This blow then to thy heart-

[She stabs berself, be endeavours to prevent ber.

Alon. Hoa! Zanga! Isabella! Hoa! she bleeds!

Descend, ye blessed angels, to assist her!

Leon. This is the only way that I would wound thee, Tho' most unjust. Now think me guilty still.

Enter Isabella.

Alon. Bear her to instant help. The world to fave her.

Leon. Unhappy man! well may'st thou gaze and
tremble;

But fix thy terror and amazement right;

Not on my blood, but on thy own distraction.

What hast thou done? Whom censur'd! - Lecnora! When thou hadst censur'd, thou wouldst save her life;

O inconfifent! Should I live in shame,

Or stoop to any other means but this

To affert my virtue? No; fhe who disputes

Admits it possible she might be guilty.

While aught but truth could be my inducement to it,

While it might look like an excuse to thee,

I fcorn'd to vindicate my innocence;

But now, I let thy rashness know, the wound Which least I feel, is that my dagger made.

[Ifabella leads out Leonora.

Alon. Ha! was this woman guilty?—and if not— How my thought darkens that way! Grant, kindheav'n,

That

Is

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I

That she prove guilty, or give being end.
Is that my hope, then? — Sure the facred dust
Of her that bore me trembles in its urn.
Is it in man the fore distress to bear,
When hope itself is blacken'd to despair,
When all the bliss I pant for, is to gain
In hell a refuge from severer pain?

[Exit Alonzo.

Enter Zanga.

Zan. How stands the great account 'twixt me and vengeance?

Tho' much is paid, yet still it owes me much, And I will not abate a single groan.—

Ha! that were well—but that were fatal too—
Why, be it so—Revenge so truly great
Would come too cheap, if bought with less than life.

Come, death; come, hell, then; 'tis resolv'd, 'tis done.

Enter Isabella.

Isab. Ah! Zanga, see me tremble! Has not yet
Thy cruel heart its fill?—Poor Leonora—
Zan. Welters in blood, and gasps for her last breath.
What then? We all must die.

And in the tempest of his grief has thrice
Attempted on his life. At length disarm'd,
He calls his friends that save him his worst foes,
And importunes the skies for swift perdition.
Thus in his storm of forrow. After pause
He started up, and call'd aloud for Zanga,
For Zanga rav'd; and see, he seeks you here,
To learn the truth which most he dreads to know.

Zan. Be gone. Now, now, my foul, confummate all. [Exit Isab.

Enter Alonzo.

Alon. O Zanga!

Zan. Do not tremble fo; but speak.

Alon. I dare not. [Falls on bim.

Zan. You will drown me with your tears.

Alon. Have I not cause?

Zan. As yet you have no cause.

Alon. Doft thou too save?

Zan. Your anguish is to come:

You much have been abus'd.

Alon. Abus'd! by whom?

Zan. To know were little comfort.

Alon. O'twere much!

Zan. Indeed!

Alon. By heav'n ! O give him to my fury !

Zan. Born for your use, I live but to oblige you.

Know then, 'twas--- I.

Alon, Am Lawake?

Zan. Forever.

Thy wife is guiltless, that's one transport to me;

And I, I let thee know it, that's another.

I urg'd Don Carlos to refign his mistres, I forg'd the letter, I dispos'd the picture;

I hated, I despis'd, and I destroy.

Alon. Oh! [Sawoons.

Zan. Why this is well—why this is blow for blow. Where are you? Crown me, shadow me with laurels,

Ye spirits which delight in just revenge!

Let Europe and her pallid sons go weep; Let Africk and her hundred thrones rejoice:

O my dear countrymen, look down and fee

How I bestride your prostrate conqueror!

I tread on haughty Spain, and all her kings. But this is mercy, this is my indulgence,

Tis peace, 'tis refuge from my indignation.

I muft

I must awake him into horrors. Hoa! Alonzo, hoa! the Moor is at the gate; Awake, invincible, omnipotent! Thou who dost all subdue.

Alon. Inhuman flave!

Zan. Fall'n christian, thou mistak'st my character. Look on me. Who am I? I know, thou fay'ft The Moor, a flave, an abject, beaten flave; (Eternal woes to him that made me fo!) But look again. Has fix years cruel bondage Extinguish'd majesty so far, that nought Shines here to give an awe to one above thee? When the great Moorifb king Abdalla fell, Fell by thy hand accurs'd, I fought fast by him, His fon, tho', thro' his fondness, in disguise, Less to expose me to th' ambitious foe. Ha! does it wake thee! O'er my father's corfe I stood astride till I had clove thy crest, And then was made the captive of a fquadron, And funk into thy fervant - But oh! what, What were my wages? Hear nor heav'n, nor earth! My wages were a blow, by heav'n, a blow, And from a mortal hand.

Alon. O villain ! villain !

Zan. All strife is vain.

Shewing a dagger.

Alon. Is thus my love return'd?

Is this my recompence? Make friends of tigers!

Lay not your young, O mothers, on the breaft,

For fear they turn to ferpents as they lie,

And pay you for their nourishment with death!

Carlos is dead, and Leonora dying!

Both innocent, both murder'd, both by me.

That heav'nly maid which should have liv'd for ever,

At least have gently slept her soul away;

Whose life should have shut up as ev'ning slow'rs

At the departing sun—was murder'd! murder'd!

O shame! O guilt! O horror! O remorse!

O punishment! Had satan never fell, Hell had been made for me — O Leonora!

Zan. Must I despise thee too, as well as hate thee? Complain of grief, complain thou art a man. Priam from fortune's lofty fummit fell, Great Alexander 'midst his conquests mourn'd; Heroes and demi-gods have known their forrows: Cafars have wept, and I have had my blow: But 'tis reveng'd, and now my work is done. Yet, ere I fall, be it one part of vengeance To make thee to confess that I am just. Thou feeft a prince, whose father thou hast slain, Whose native country thou hast laid in blood, Whose facred person (oh!) thou hast profan'd, Whose reign extinguish'd: what was left to me So highly born? No kingdom, but revenge! No treasure, but thy tortures and thy groans. If men should ask who brought thee to thy end, Tell them the Moor, and they will not despise thee. If cold white mortals censure this great deed, Warn them, they judge not of superior beings, Souis maus of fire, and children of the fun, With whom revenge is virtue. Fare thee well-Now fully fatisfy'd I should take leave: But one thing grieves me, fince thy death is near, I leave thee my example how to die.

As he is going to ftab himself Alonzo rushes upon him to prevent him. In the mean time, Enter Alvarez attended. They disarm and seize Zanga. Alonzo puts the dagger in his bosom.

Alon. No, monster, thou shalt not escape by death. O father!

Alw. O Alonzo! — Ifabella,
Touch'd with remorfe to fee her mistress' pangs,
Told all the dreadful tale.

Alon. What groan was that?

Zan. As I have been a vultur to thy heart, So will I be a raven to thine ear, And true as ever fnuff'd the scent of blood, As ever flapt its heavy wing against The window of the sick, and croak'd despair. Thy wife is dead.

[Alvarez goes to the fide of the flage, and returns.

Alv. The dreadful news is true.

Alon. Prepare the rack, invent new torments for him.

Zan. This too is well. The fix'd and noble mind

Turns all occurrence to its own advantage;

And I'll make vengeance of calamity.

Were I not thus reduc'd, thou would'th not know,

That, thus reduc'd, I dare defy thee still.

Torture thou may'th, but thou shalt ne'er despise me.

The blood will follow where the knife is driven,

The slesh will quiver where the pincers tear,

And sighs and cries by nature grow on pain.

But these are foreign to the soul: not mine

The groans that issue, or the tears that fall;

They disobey me; on the rack I scorn thee,

As when my faulchion clove thy helm in battle.

Alv. Peace, villain!

Zan. While I live, old man, I'll speak, And well I know thou dar'it not kill me yet; For that would rob thy blood-hounds of their prey.

Alon. Who call'd Alonzo?
Alv. No one call'd, my fon.

Alon. Again! --- 'tis Carlos' voice, and I obey.

O how I laugh at all that this can do!

[Shewing the dagger. The wounds that pain'd, the wounds that murder'd me, Were giv'n before; I am already dead; This only marks my body for the grave. [Stabs bimflif. Africk, thou art reveng'd—O Leonora!—[Dies. Zan. Good ruffians, give me leave, my blood is yours,

The wheel's prepar'd, and you shall have it all;

70 THE REVENGE.

Let me but look one moment on the dead, And pay yourselves with gazing on my pangs.

O vengeance! I have follow'd thee too far, And to receive me hell blows all her fires.

[He goes to Alonzo's body.

Is this Alonzo? where's the haughty mien?

Is that the hand which fmote me? Heav'ns, how pale!

And art thou dead? fo is my enmity.

I war not with the dust: the great, the proud,

The conqueror of Africk was my foe.

A lion preys not upon carcases.

This was thy only method to subdue me.

Terror and doubt fall on me; all thy good

Now blazes, all thy guilt is in the grave.

Never had man such suneral applause;

If I lament thee, sure thy worth was great.

[He is borne off.

Alv. Dreadful effect of jealousy! a rage
In which the wise with caution will engage;
Reluctant long, and tardy to believe,
Where sway'd by nature we ourselves deceive,
Where our own folly joins the villain's art,
And each man finds a Zanga in his heart.

[Excunt omnes.

EPILOGUE.

By a FRIEND.

OUR Author fent me, in an humble strain, To beg you'd blefs the offspring of his brain; And I, your Proxy, promis'd, in your name, The Child should live, at least fix days of fame: I like the brat, but still his faults can find, And, by the Parent's leave, will speak my mind. Gallants, pray tell me, do you think 'twas well, To let a willing Maid lead Apes in Hell? You nicer Ladies, shou'd you think it right, To eat no Supper - on your wedding night? Shou'd English Husbands dare to starve their Wives, Be fure they'd lead most comfortable lives! But he loves mischief, and, with groundless fears, Wou'd fain fet loving Couples by the ears; Wou'd spoil the tender Husbands of our nation, By teaching them his vile, outlandish fashion: But we'we been taught, in our good natur'd clime, That Jealoufy, the' just, is still a crime; And will be still, for (not to blame the Plot) That Same Alonzo was a flupid Sot; To kill a Bride, a Mistress unenjoy'd, -Twere some excuse bad the poor man been cloy'd: To rell ber on Sufpicion, ere be knew Whether the beinous crime were false, or true. The Priest Said grace, she met him in the bow'r, In hopes she might anticipate an hour-Love was her errand, but the bot-brain'd Spaniard, Instead of Love-produc'd-a filthy poniard-

EPILOG

Had be been wise, at this their private The proof of the pudding had been in Madam had then been pleas'd, and Dand all this Blood and Murder been Britons, be wise, and from this sai Ne'er break a Bargain, but first taken

FINI





ILOGUE.

this their private meeting, ing had been in the eating; pleas'd, and Don contented, ad Murder been prevented. I from this sad example in, but first take a Sample.

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